

Taking Aim Radio: Release of the CIA's "Family Jewels"

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<http://takingaimradio.com/> with Ralph Schoenman and Mya Shone. Interview with Joan Mellen.

The Release of the CIA's "Family Jewels": Official Murder Then and Now -- A Discussion with Joan Mellen

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[Music] this is taking aim with Rob Sherman and Maya shown our program today the release of the family jewels official murder then and now today on taking aim we have a very special program a discussion with Joan Mellon professor and noted author specifically of a farewell to justice Jim Garrison JFK's assassination and the case that should have changed history today on taking aim we discuss in particular an aspect of the family jewels the family jewels are 702 pages of documents released on June 26th by CIA director General Michael Hayden these were released in response to a 1992 request yes 15 years previously a request by the national security archives requesting documents that had been prepared by CI then CIA director Colby and initiated by the CIA director James Schlesinger in response to a 1973 directive that he had issued ordering senior agency officials to provide an accounting of all CIA activities that had been conducted in violation of the agency's original charter a charter that specifically barred the CIA from carrying out domestic operations if you look back in

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domestic operations if you look back in history you will recall that this had been prompted by the arrest of two longtime CIA CIA operatives he Howard hunt and Jane McChord in connection with a break-in at the Democratic Party's Watergate offices this is the famous Watergate crisis and it exposed broader CIA involvement in so-called dirty tricks carried out by the Nixon administration and as we know carried out by all administration's against political opponents Richard Nick F in the wake of Richard Nixon's resignation Schlessinger successor at the CIA William Colby assembled some of the record of the so-called skeletons in the agency's closet and presented them to President Gerald Ford they stayed there much of the material in the now release document has been previously leaked or its contents exposed publicly in the course of House and Senate investigations of the agency these investigations were the pike and church committee's conducted in the mid-1970s but until now the CIA steadfastly refused to release the material as the New York Times noted this material these long-awaited documents leave out a great deal quote from the New York Times article of June 27th by mark Mazzetti and Tim whiner files on illegal spying spying show CIA skeletons from the Cold War they note large sections are censored showing that the CIA still cannot bring itself to expose all the skeletons in the closet and many activities about overseas operations disclosed years ago by journalists congressional investigators and a Presidential Commission are not

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and a Presidential Commission are not detailed in the papers the family jewels catalog domestic wiretapping assassination plots of heads of state mind-control experiments spying on journalists from the early years of the CIA as well as spying and infiltration of dissidents notably anti-war activists included in this the seven two pages of documents however is one important memorandum of a conversation between President Gerald r Ford dr. Henry a Kissinger then secretary of a state and assistant to the president for national security affairs and Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft deputy assistant to the president for national security affairs this meet meeting took place Saturday January 4th 1975 at 9:40 a.m. and it ended at 12:20 p.m. and it took place in the Oval Office at the White House it's a very important meeting and specifically a comment by Kissinger is revelatory so revealing that it is the subject of our discussion today on taking aim with Joan Mellon Kissinger States Helms referring to Richard Helms of the CIA said all these stories are just the tip of the iceberg if they come out blood will flow for example Robert Kennedy personally managed the operation on the assassination of Castro referring to the Cuban President Fidel Castro Ralph well I think it's interesting to note that the number of significant figures are involved in all of this in this very document that you're citing hmm the president is to ask Ford what can we do

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president is to ask Ford what can we do well we can get Griswold and Lemnitzer and friendly and Reagan and Jack Connor and Shannon and and dill and then Kissinger says you might think of Rusk this is going to get real rough and you need to have people around oh no the presidency and a national interest what Colby has done as a disgrace President Ford should we suspend him no but after the investigation is over you can move him and put in someone else so when the FBI has a hunting license into the CIA this could end up worse than than Watergate president wood Rusk have known this stuff Kissinger you better ask him and then who to engage in these discussions between Kissinger and and Gerald Ford about how they're gonna handle and Scowcroft about how they're gonna handle this Kolbe disclosure of the Central Intelligence Agency's 25-year involvement with organized assassination and mind-control an important aspect of what they're concerned about is mind control and that goes directly to the preparation of programmed assassins MKULTRA is not just arbitrary discuss implementation of mind control experiments but a focus the utilization of the ability to program people to become assassins for very major political operations such as the murderer ironically as it would turn out of Robert Kennedy himself Ralph let's go back to the statement by Kissinger Robert Kennedy personally managed the operation on the assassination of Castro Joan please discuss the significance of this revelation by Kissinger well first I'd like to add a little footnote and that is when Kissinger says about Colby after the investigation is over you could move him and put in someone of towering integrity I just want to add for the listeners that the person of

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for the listeners that the person of course who replaced Colby was George W. H. Bush as Director of Central Intelligence and he was a person who was going to play ball with them Colby was too friendly to the church committee and gave away too many of the family jewels and the other point I just like to make to start with is that the National Security Archive made this request in 1992 pursuant to the JFK act which had just been passed and which had mandated that the CIA release all assassination related records and so in 1992 that was a good thing to do now or a possible John Sayer work just say a word since you mentioned that the replacement was none other than Bush Senior briefly Bush senior's a long-standing association with the agency and in particular in relation both to Bay of Pigs and the events surrounding the assassination of Kennedy well that's that's gets us started on George H. W. Bush the father and one of the things that George H. W. Bush said during his confirmation hearings in 1976 when he was appointed director of Central Intelligence was that he had no prior relationship with the CIA and in my new research that I'm doing what I found is an enormous record of CIA relationship between Bush Senior whispers senior rather starting really from the time that he was brought to Texas by H. Neal Mallon and in the founding of his companies Zapata and Zapata off offshore and I think what Ralph is referring to there is the fact that the Bay of Pigs operation was had the name Zapatas as its code names indicating how closely related Bush was to the CIA is certainly in both actually the time two of the patrol boats one of them was named the Barbara I think it

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them was named the Barbara I think it was the Zapata you see so two of the actual patrol boats used in the Bay of Pigs operation one which was imposed to some extent on the Kennedy brothers that they had great doubts about particularly with it's a caller Ari demand of us backup with troops and Air Force and so on and there is Bush senior at the very center of this particular operation clearly a covert op motivated and located in Texas as companies being formed around that whole nexus that we're just describing here now I'd like to go back to your question Maya and that was about Robert this quotation from Richard Helms Robert Kennedy personally managed the operation on the assassination of Castro which is only half true in fact what happened there Robert Kennedy immediately took an office at Langley he was very rarely in the attorney general's office and he pursued his own operations for the assassination of Fidel Castro the CIA parallel parallel track pursued its own they did not share intelligence largely and one of the points we're addressing here is the notion that Robert Kennedy had nothing to do with these plots to assassinate Castro which is plainly not true I could I have so much evidence here that I don't know where to begin but I'd like to begin with something that I one of the important documents that we have here is the oral history that was made for the Central Intelligence Agency by one of its members of the clandestine service who worked closely with Richard Helms whose name was Sam Halpern and Sam Halpern is reminiscing here in 1998 over events over what he had done in CIA and he says several very interesting things about Robert Kennedy one is that and that amazed Department of Justice lawyers who work with Kennedy at the time it was well known that while Robert Kennedy was supposedly putting people in the Mafia

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supposedly putting people in the Mafia in jail and they kidnapped carlos marcello on the streets of New Orleans and so forth at the same time Robert Kennedy had enlisted a CIA operative named Charles Ford Charlie Ford who went under the pseudonym at that time rocky fiscally me and he was sent but we in both in the United States and particularly in Canada to search for mafia people who might help in assassination plots against Castro and a Halperin reveals this in in his oral history has absolutely no reason to lie but we have so much evidence of this that I don't really know even where to begin in this oral history junk let me interrupt you first you talk about an oral history this is an oral history that the CIA prepared itself with its own members excellent sown agents that's correct that the CIA has rights its own history oh yes I mean if you read Don DeLillo's novel Libre you'll find that one of the central characters is named Nicolas branch who sits in an enclosed room and writes the official history of the Kennedy assassination for the CIA and he's locked in this room for years and document upon document keep they keep bringing in new documents and he sits there almost suspended in time writing for the CIA the history of the Kennedy assassination sister oral history that's a good question too it's it's a document at the National Archives anybody can have it the CIA contributed it this is the originator here is the agency file number just says history staff the originator is CIA the from the two CIA employees who did the interview named Brian littell and Michael Warner and the subject is Sam Halpern and the date that they did this oral history is April 7th 1998 and it's a secret documents well Joan I just but I'm not done go ahead

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Joan I just but I'm not done go ahead well I want to relate this to the role of RFK and what Kissinger Ford and Brent Scowcroft are mentioning when they say these stories are the tip of the iceberg if all that we did emerged blood would flow and then he goes on to say about dar FK managing personally an assassination program aimed at fidel well by the way some of that material that Robert Kennedy is not it's not exactly secret for example there was a group part of the president's foreign intelligence advisory board under President Kennedy it was called the special group augmented parentheses was Robert Kennedy and there was a discussion on August 10th 1962 minutes available with where General Edward Lansdale a general Edward Lansdale was a CIA operative in Vietnam whom Robert Kennedy enlisted to help him formulate plots to murder Fidel Castro an openly Lansdale talks about quote elimination of leaders and Sam Howard is referring to this and he shot and William Harvey who was in charge of CR rifle which was the executive

action which was the murder program of the CIA involved in the assassinations of foreign leaders such as Lumumba the attempted assassination of Lumumba which is mentioned also in the new Family Jewels well Halperin is amazed and Harvey was amazed that Lansdale would speak about that input actually where it would be in writing and Halperin says puts it in writing and Harvey goes through the roof it's all out there now but that's the kind of people who don't know what the hell it's all about so now you're Lansdale you don't say anything this is it it was really took tremendous effort on the part of everybody the National Security Archive and all the people who have worked in this field to try to get and I think we have to thank Oliver Stone and for having the courage to have made the film which led to public outcry which led to the passage of the JFK act which really is responsible for the release of these family jewels you would not see them if there were no JFK acts

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not see them if there were no JFK acts let's remember that and I want to mention one incident that I wrote about in a farewell to justice which is that the head of the Office of Naval Intelligence in New Orleans his name was Guy Johnson and God Johnson was sent to Washington DC he's produced in the Oval Office with John F Kennedy and Robert Kennedy and they are discussing the return able commander the recruitment of a sniper to go into Cuba and to shoot Fidel Castro a mimesis this naval commander was also an O an AI operative which is how God Johnson came to and his name was Richard Gordon and right there there's John Kennedy Robert Kennedy Dean Rusk is present and Gordon is enlisted by the Kennedys to train a marksman to kill Castro the sniper actually sets forth Charlie's to get into Cuba is picked up by Castro never seen again but this was just one example a minute where the reason that we know about this incident not that guy Johnson talked about it but that Gordon was then really he was a very dangerous person to have around and he got into various trouble and f lee Bailey had to defend him and of course definitely Bailey's and learn the story and told it to me so the idea that no one talks that the information doesn't become available is not true the idea that Robert Kennedy and his brother and were involved in temperature murder Castro is just plainly not true the evidence is overwhelming and I think Ralph and I interviewed Ramsey Clark together and Ramsey Clark told us that when he became Attorney General now Robert Kennedy was Attorney General then he was replaced by Nicholas Katzenbach and then Ramsey Clark came in Lyndon Johnson really was very uncomfortable with and back as being a Kennedy loyalist and there's Ramsey Clark opens his desk and he discovers a memo that remained there from the Dayton Robert Kennedy times and there was a memo from General Lansdale to Robert Kennedy outlining some of the plot to murder Fidel Castro ramsley

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plot to murder Fidel Castro ramsley Clark was amazed Amanda Clark said to us during that interview he had tried over and over to rein Robert Kennedy in it wasn't only the plots to murder Fidel Castro that Bobby Kennedy was involved in it was also really he broke the law on every front and I think the big example of that we may not have time to go into it today was the prosecution of Jimmy Hoffa well John I do want to go into that today but before we do since you brought up our discussions with Ramsey and their extended discussions Ramsey and I go back 30 years but I want to mention that the memo from Edward Lansdale to RFK regarding enlisting Lansdale in a Robert Kennedy plan to kill Fidel is only part of the story after all Lansdale is deeply involved in the circumstances surrounding the assassination of John F Kennedy and all that rawr RFK was planning to do with lands their lands that was reporting to J Edgar Hoover unbeknownst to Robert Kennedy and of course Hoover is a figure involved in plots against the Kennedys from the get-go so this takes on a dimension here of a very real internecine conflict within the ruling class in which the gentlemen killers of the CIA are turning on each other out of which emerges the coup d'etat represented by the assassination of John F Kennedy and in many respects the elements that underline that conflict within the ruling class over tactics and strategy are being played out today at the current moment but I want to wonder if you would elaborate a bit on the role of Lansdale the significance of his reporting on RFK to J

Edgar Hoover and how that relates to the fact that Lee Harvey Oswald who was chosen as the fall guy and a patsy for the Kennedy assassination is figured that not only the opposing the people planning to murder John Kennedy

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people planning to murder John Kennedy are deploying but Robert Kennedy himself is playing Oswald and thereby by selecting Oswald as the Patsy the ability of Robert Kennedy or the willingness of Robert Kennedy to expose who killed his brother is severely circumscribed well that's a big question I think I'll start with Jim gas in there and Jim Garrison's astonishment that Robert Kennedy did not help him in his investigation of the assassination of John F Kennedy I guess and just couldn't understand it but when we and none of us could really understand it either a why Robert Kennedy not only didn't help Jim garrison but sworn it every effort to tell the truth about the assassination and I can give so many examples but one occurred when I discussed had been a farewell to justice where garrison is about to put clay Shaw on trial and he and he appeals to the federal government for autopsy photographs and x-rays of the freer of genre of John F Kennedy in order to use it to trial and he's a Department of Justice lawyer opposes the effort to get these documents Garrison's lawyer whose name was número where's the case and then of course the issue was whether the Justice Department would appeal so that it could go on and on and and the Justice Department lawyer said Roberta wait a minute I have to call the Kennedys and see what they want to do and the Kennedy said appeal and of course the Tot timer and out and Garrison never got the x-rays and autopsy photographs whether or not they were altered or not is beside the point here so the Kennedy Robert Kennedy stood in the way of any kind of truth being told about the assassination now what I discovered from my book was that which was amazing I think to me and maybe to many people the Robert Kennedy knew well of the existence of Lee Harvey Oswald that Oswald in fact was among the anti-castro activists whom Robert Kennedy was recruiting for his personal plots to kill Castro and he sent some cuban operatives to New Orleans during the summer of 1963 where indeed they

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the summer of 1963 where indeed they encountered I was long and one of these operatives named Angelo Mercado talked to me he told me that he was one of the Cubans this these had never been identified - to Cubans wisly Harvey Oswald who visited a Cuban exile named Sylvia ODL in Dallas in late September of 1963 and to refresh the memory of listeners what happened there was the two cubans went to mrs. Odia when they had Oswald was there and they're discussing funding anti-castro activities and then a day or two later one of the Cubans telephones mrs. odio and he says you know that Leon he was called Leon then Leon Oswald is really crazy talking about killing President Kennedy and Angelo Morgado who the other Cuban who was Bobby Kennedy's represented him was of course overwhelmed shocked he said he vomited when on November 22nd he saw that Oswald was arrested and this person whom he had thought was an anti-castro activist and you know was in his own domain there was actually he didn't know was involved in the murder of President Kennedy now Bobby Kennedy when the assassination occurred immediately said to his press secretary Frank mankiewicz do you think any of our guys were involved well who our guys that's not the Cubans whom Robert Kennedy was enlisting in murder of and plots against Fidel Castro and mankiewicz looked at him and he thought to himself he didn't say this do you think there might have been and of course what Bobby Kennedy's floor was indeed that there might have been so that so ever after what we see in Robert Kennedy is efforts to cover up his own Jim Garrison in New Orleans they're looking at anti-castro Cubans and their role in the assassination what the Bobby Kennedy was terrified that garrison would find out about the fact that Bobby Kennedy had knowledge of oswald prior to the assassination one of the things I discovered is that Bobby Kennedy had knowledge of oswald even before the summer of 1963 and in some of my ongoing research I'm looking at the shooting of

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research I'm looking at the shooting of General Edwin Walker by Oswald in April of 1963 this is before Oswald even goes to New Orleans this is in Dallas and then when they're a general Walker ever after was persuaded that Bobby Kennedy that had sent a memo from the Department of Justice to the Dallas police saying that Oswald should not be apprehended for shooting at the attend to the assassination of general Walker well that's what rather amazing now the document that's involved is missing from the archives of the Dallas Police so we can see how this cover-up a really you know was very well oiled and worked very very well and gentlemen sorry Mike John who was general Walker and why would there be an assassination attempt on him well if Oswald is being set up to Masada as the coming the fashion of it's not so far off from April to November wouldn't it be good to have a record for Oswald of a previous assassination attempt general Walker was a right-wing general who'd retired from the Army and was minding his own business and from this particular occasion was sitting in his living room and the shots come in through the window and I I mean we could only think that this is part of the framing of Oswald long before the us at the actual assassination in Dallas well let's look at that a moment because one of the mean on your website are three extraordinary articles and those articles pertain to a figure known as Walter Sheridan and Walter Sheridan is a person who was answerable to Robert Kennedy directly and had a long history with the CIA and the FBI and was essentially a stone-cold thug deployed to suborn perjury terrorized witnesses bribed them threaten them with imprisonment or death or worse because when I mean worse is

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or worse because when I mean worse is consequences for their families and he is Robert Kennedy's man and he just mr. Sheridan is now being sheep dipped by the likes of David Talbott and his the recent what can I call it this cartoon book fairy tale fairy tale called the brothers about the Kennedy brothers romanticizing the Kennedy brothers and representing them and as the Warriors for peace and and in particular presenting Walter Sheridan is a heroic figure trying to uncover the Kennedy assassination discuss the significance of Walter Sheridan in his destruction of the of the attempts to expose who killed Kennedy and his relationship to Robert Kennedy in this process well Ralph first we have to look at Sheridan official title confidential assistant to Robert Kennedy and what the certain had first of all one of the agencies that we left out in the discussion with National Security Agency which is well known to all of us now for its illegal surveillance of citizens of the United States so Sheridan who is working for Robert Kennedy since the days of the McClellan committee where Bobby became Bobby as we know him and was assured a that would you date that McClellan I did McClellan committee had to be in the 50s yes uh I can't take the exact date no that's correct we're in the 50s anyway when we get to the area we're talking about what Sheridan did for Bobby Kennedy are not discussing on WWJ ml and net three articles Ralph is referring to the three articles about Walter Sheridan the three areas that Sheridan operates in for Bobby Kennedy first of all the get Hoffa Robbie had this obsession with putting James Jimmy Hoffa in jail and we have to leave out in our in our discussion here whether or not Hoffa was guilty but rather we're talking about the methods

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rather we're talking about the methods that we used as Ralph described them to nail Hoffa but John let me just stop them for one brief moment here about this because the role of Robert Kennedy and the role of Walter ceratin in destroying Jimmy Hoffa and the methods that we use go to the heart of the Family Jewels go to the heart of the question of the use of surveillance the use of wiretaps of compromising the ability to can have an attorney and a due process trial they go to all the issues that the Bush administration is accused of embracing namely the abrogation of normal constitutional rights with the so called enemy combatants and military tribunals and renditions and disappearances and the elimination of the right to a fair trial and for the attorneys themselves to be compromised in the process all of that is rooted in the role of Robert Sheeran excuse me of Walter Sheridan and Robert Kennedy and to get Hoffa campaign well I want I hope Ralph will soon discuss for us why the National what why the CIA released these these documents to the National Security Archive at this moment after they were requested in 1992 but when when I look at just to give us a little quick summary about Sheridan's activities for Bobby Kennedy first of all chronologically Walter cherdon and Bobby Kennedy succeeded in removing from the office of security of the State Department a figure

named Otto Epke. Mr. Ortega was really in charge of doing background checks on personnel being hired by the State Department and he could not understand for years why he was drummed out of his position and reassigned taken out of the office of security. Why this happened and when I began to study this question and we see first of all Mr. Epke being surveilled, illegal tapes are being made, wiretaps. I mean Bobby Kennedy was absolutely obsessed by wiretap and yeah wiretapping all over the place and he's wiretapping reporters.

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the place and he's wiretapping reporters and dissidents in Martin Luther King and anybody who opposed the US government. Warren also. I just want to say just now a little footnote to this story and that is that Bobby Kennedy learned he was so obsessed with wiretapping that he went to an assistant director of the FBI named Courtney Evans. This is a 1961 and he asked Evans to explain to him all the messages that the FBI had discovered about how to wiretap and what kind of technology they were using and then after that and then he asked for literature about it and materials and then he asked Courtney Evans to write a letter saying that Bobby Kennedy had never discussed wiretapping with him and had never gotten any material from Courtney Evans about wiretapping and he took this letter because Barbie Kennedy of course publicly after the case was accused of wiretapping and William Loeb, he who was kind of right-wing figure but in New Hampshire exposed because Loeb had discussed all this with Casa de Lloa, she was the third in command at the FBI at the time known as Deke and they told Lobo about Bobby Kennedy's wiretapping love then published it in his newspaper and you know the FBI went with Bobby Kennedy, went crazy, was trying to cover for himself so he produces this phony letter written for him by Courtney Evans and then J. Edgar Hoover gets wind of this and of course exposes that Courtney Evans had told everybody at the FBI and had written as such how Bobby Kennedy had gotten all the information about wiretapping from the FBI so that's another example of what Ralph was referring to in Hoover's attacks on the Kennedys because he really nailed Bobby Kennedy on that one, well deserved however because we complain about the domestic surveillance here now by the National Security Agency and we find the precedent in the democratic administration of the Kennedys that's the point that I'm sure Ralph and Maya can talk about this is taking aim with Rob Sherman and Maya shown our program today the release of the Family

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program today the release of the Family Jewels official murder then and now we're having a discussion with Joan Mellon, professor and author of a farewell to justice Jim Garrison, JFK's assassination and the case that should have changed history. We have been discussing the recent release of the family jewels fifteen years after the request by the National Security Archive their request in 1992 of documents prepared by a long time ago Dorothy, director William Colby. Joan hi Maya I wanted to just go back to now Walter Sharon's efforts. Walter Sharon was a lawyer who had a long history of involvement with intelligence agencies as Ralph said the National Security Agency the CIA the FBI he was working for all these agencies was cleared by all of them was Bobby Kennedy's confidential assistant and one of the tasks that Bobby Kennedy assigned to Walter Sheridan was to make sure that it never became public that Bobby Kennedy was well aware of Lee Oswald. It began even before the assassination of President Kennedy in the attempter case where Ottawa Epke at the office of security of the State Department was asked to investigate as part of his job a series of quote-unquote defectors to the Soviet Union and on that list was the name Lee Oswald, tourist and Mr. Teske began to investigate Oswald and it was shortly after that that will that through the efforts of Walter Sheridan all the personnel in the office who were superior to Mr. Akaka are replaced by Kennedy loyalists. Mr. Ortega is put under wire surveillance his telephone and also his all conversations in his office and eventually he is reassigned and taken out of the office of security entirely the better that Oswald not be investigated and we have to I did a long article on it on my website about Mr. Ortega the other effort that Bobby Kennedy and Walter Sheridan made to keep secret Bobby Kennedy's interest in

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secret Bobby Kennedy's interest in Oswald and later his knowledge of Oswald was Bobby Kennedy sending Walter Sheridan to New Orleans to thwart Jim Garrison now lies have been told about Sharon's purpose he was down there to investigate the Kennedy assassination he was down there to inquire about what Garrison was up to this is absolutely untrue and Sheridan himself had an assistant named Richard Townley who worked for the NBC affiliate somebody ought to do some research on the relationship between the NBC and the Kennedy administration and Life magazine because they were all in bed together Walter Shan hires Richard Thanh Liem wdsu the NBC affiliate in New Orleans and they go around New Orleans trying to blackmail and Broad Garrison's witnesses to prevent them from testifying at the trial of Clay Shaw and it's very interesting that Walter Sharon goes down to New Orleans to begin this effort even before Garrison arrested Clay Shaw we see I can replace Walter Sharon in New Orleans in February from where he's knocking on the red door of Clay Shaw in the French Quarter on Dauphin Street and that's interesting because it wasn't until March 1st that Garrison actually arrested Clay Shaw Joan I want you to just pause a moment and do the following for us because there Walter Sheridan does two things for Robert Kennedy on the one hand with respect to James Hoffa Jimmy Hoffa he involves himself in using every method of bribery and of kidnapping and of suborning perjury to frame Jimmy Hoffa with Parton and with all those with Robert Kennedy driving this operation Walter Sheridan all of the the of the crimes against liberties that are the content of the family jewels are some certain sense encapsulated in what Walter Sheridan does to destroy Jimmy Hoffa of course this is really an assault upon the Teamsters this is an assault upon the trade union movement and upon the working class in the United

[00:36:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=2160s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=2160s)

and upon the working class in the United and organized labor an organized labor because as Maya is indicating if we really look at how the mob is brought into the Teamsters the Teamsters were formed by Trotskyist revolutionaries in the 30s by by Farrell Dobbs and his extraordinary 4-volume work on Teamster power encapsulate how cross industry organizing began in the crisis of the depression in the 30s and the ruling class was determined to destroy the Teamsters in organized labor the FBI is brought into the Teamsters in fact Jack Ruby III you have to understand that the formation of the Teamsters where you have cross industry across the country was a very significant development in labor from the smaller craft unions of the AFL so this is the the history of the Teamsters is extremely important in 1939 a man named Jack Ruby murders Leon Cook who is a secretary of the iron and waste handlers local of the Teamsters in Chicago literally carries out this murder virtually the gun in his hand it's on the front page of the Chicago Tribune the mob is brought into control of the Teamsters beginning in Chicago that's the role of the Federal Bureau of which Jack Ruby was an instrument and an operative in 1947 he's before in Richard Nixon's house and American Activities Committee warning about communists in the trade union movement and assigned to Dallas to carry out his work therefore the Federal Bureau of Investigation yes this does bear upon the assassination it does bear upon the relation of Ruby and Oswald and above all it bears upon the role of the Kennedys and as an integral part of the ruling class in targeting organized labor and focusing on the ten-ton the Teamsters through the destruction of Jimmy Hoffa and the uses of Walter

[00:38:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=2280s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=2280s)

Jimmy Hoffa and the uses of Walter Sheridan and the uses of these techniques of which the Kissinger people talk about it being the tip of the iceberg and if what all that we did emerge blood will flow they're talking about the class war that targets the rights of all of us in this country please focus on what Walter Sheridan and Robert Kennedy did specifically to James Hoffa and then ad seriatim applied this to District Attorney Jim Garrison and Garrison's efforts to show the role of the CIA and of the military and the execution of the head of state a coup d'etat in America well what what Sheridan did his main tactic was to enlist a criminal from Louisiana named Edward Grady Parton and Life magazine helped the effort by whitewashing Parton and describing him as you know he was guilty of a few domestic squabbles and minor crimes and to rehabilitate the character of Ed would create Grady Parton in order to use him as a trumped up witness against the Jimmy Hoffa now the fact is that Parton was guilty of everything from manslaughter to rape to kidnapping to felonies you name it and I had a wonderful moment when I was doing my research when one

of the lawyers who represented Parton broke with him and Parton had owed him \$10,000 here at this moment his name was Lou marriage and Parton says I how did he put it I won't you won't sue me and I won't have you killed and that gives us a feeling and so they're even and that gives you a feeling of who Greg would Grady part now cherdon illegally it was illegal for federal witnesses to be paid nonetheless Sheridan threw he used a an intermediary an FBI agent and a Frank Grimsley and Grimsley was paying off pardon so final apartment eventually gets on the stand and he's asked if he's paid and he says not only is he paid but they still owe him money so he blurts it all out on the

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him money so he blurts it all out on the stand Grimsley then refuses to cover for Sheridan of course the check was made out by Grimsley but Grimsley then points to a document where Sheridan authorizes the payment but that's not only that Sheridan had somebody used minor criminal whom he then could blackmail and say they'd go back to jail if they if they didn't do what he said they put wiretaps and microphones in the rooms of Hoffa and his lawyer and then they prepared their questions for the next day based on those illegal wiretaps they blackmailed people they bribed people and Sheridan was even caught out because one of these people wouldn't stand for it and he made a fake tape and he used a name called Armentrout a RM en TR o UT and then the next day Sheridan asks about Armentrout it's clear that he was using the illegal tape so he wouldn't have known about that name Jones entered it I know these minutiae know what I wanted what I want you to focus on I mean Robert Kennedy was obsessed with wiretapping and Walter Sheridan's first job as you say was with the National Security Agency engaged in illegal surveillance and Robert Kennedy broke the law more than anyone else with regard to the wild volume and indiscriminate use of wiretapping and you indicated that assistant FBI director Courtney Evans was being contacted by Robert Kennedy for the latest technology for the expanded use of wiretapping but with respect to Jimmy Hoffa what they did to frame Hoffa and destroy Hoffer I mean is a police state tactics that you can only find in Nazi Germany or installing Soviet Union well it's clearly obstruction of justice at the highest level and that is why by the way walk to shared and then leaned on Ramsey Clark to make sure that his father didn't vote for the reversal of the hospitalization Joan you're referring to the US in court for you and this is justice tom clark who disqualified himself but Chief Justice Earl Warren didn't disqualify

[00:42:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=2521s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=2521s)

Justice Earl Warren didn't disqualify himself but he was a dissent in the Supreme Court decision because Earl Warren concluded in his dissenting opinion referring to the tactics of Robert F Kennedy through Walter Sheridan an invasion of basic rights made possible by prevailing upon friendship with the victim is no less prescribed than invasion accomplished by force and Sheridan's methods he concluded were quote offensive to the fair administration of justice in federal courts and he further went on to accuse Sheridan of quote obstructing justice and this is what we see again and again through the actions of Robert F Kennedy so it really comes as no surprise although it will be a shock to many and there'll be many people providing cover up like david talbert dozen in the book brothers but it's hard to do so when you have out of the mouth of Henry Kissinger in this recently released memorandum of a conversation with President Gerald our Ford taking place January 4th 1975 in the Oval Office where Kissinger quoting Richard Helms of the CIA States for example Robert Kennedy personally managed the operation on the assassination of Castro and I think in our closing minutes we should go back to Robert Kennedy and his management of his attempts to assassinate Fidel Castro and the significance of the release of these documents well but I do want you to relate this I mean we show how he framed Jimmy Hoffa how they bribed witness terrorized witnesses extorted witnesses threatened the families of witnesses threatened the lives of witnesses to forge a frame-up of Jimmy Hoffa but

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forge a frame-up of Jimmy Hoffa but that's what he did to Jim Garrison I want to also say in relation to this something about how this when we look at the CIA in the 1970s and we look at the murders which are revealed in the family jewels of fallen leaders Trujillo about which John F Kennedy did not know about the CIA's murder of Trujillo and all of that effort and the attempts to murder Lumumba which failed but you know he was murdered in any way whatever but when we look at all that we can see the CIA in a position of strength now when we look at the CIA today under George W Bush we really see internecine warfare between Bush and the CIA that kind of mirrors in a kind of strange holograph the warfare that John F Kennedy had with the CIA and which led to John F Kennedy's death so here's George W Bush appointing a Director of National Intelligence minimizing the CIA and it appears to me that the CIA in retaliation against Bush and Cheney and Rumsfeld and that their approach to power and American Authority whatever you want to call it is to release these documents because it's at this moment when Bush's and I think Ralph and I could do a good job on discussing at this moment when Bush's popularity is at an all-time low and Cheney has been accused in The New Yorker magazine this week of being malign of being evil of being and of having effected a coup d'etat at this moment we see an exposure of the worst behavior of the CIA which mirrors the behavior not of the CIA today but of Bush and Cheney and their justification of torture their spying on people through the National Security Agency which mirrors the spying on dissidents during the 1960s and 70s and so forth well I agree I would like to say that the behavior of the CIA then is compounded by the behavior of the intelligence operations today with

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intelligence operations today with rendition with torture with torture done by from all levels of security forces whether it's in local police forces up through all the intelligence operations with the prison in Guantanamo the rounding up after 9/11 of Pakistani immigrants throughout the United States about seven to nine thousand of them and on and on the at the revelation in the family jewels of the infiltration of the anti-war movements and the by the CIA as well as known infiltration by the FBI mirrors what is taking place with any dissident groups within the United States today Ralph I yeah but I want to address to put the question to Joan poses Fidel Castro was it was it was speaking about the release of the family jewels and all these revelations and he asked the question why they doing this now and Castro concludes that the reason they're releasing the family jewels now is in order to in order to suggest that this is a thing of the distant past I think that Fidel is way off the mark and disrespect his editorial was called the killing machine here's what we're really dealing with brothers and sisters one has to keep in mind that the fight between the Central Intelligence Agency and if you like new capital dependent upon the Pentagon and the CIA and engaged in the plan for major Wars of occupation with respect to Indochina whereas the Kennedy brothers in Eastern capital considered that this was reckless endangerment of the interests of capital because it involved deficit financing and setting in motion vast forces that they couldn't control in the long run particularly within the United States these disputes with although they

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States these disputes with although they culminated in a coup d'etat with the execution of the Kennedy brothers as it turned out are we played again today with the Bush administration with Cheney and Rumsfeld the so-called neo-cons that wind of capital that has bought into permanent war world war for the necessity for catastrophic events like Pearl Harbor to create the conditions for the pursuit of these genocidal schemes unfolding into genocide war in Iraq the targeting of 60 countries for a permanent war condition that Woolsey and Cheney and Wolfowitz and the architects of this of the project of the new American Century project will last another 50 to 60 years there is a wing of capital articulated most clearly by the voice of the Zbigniew Brzezinski as we've discussed on taking aim but six weeks ago on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee when Rosinski proclaimed there are three words that represent the big lie of our time and they are war on terror and Brzezinski proceeded in those remarkable words of his to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in which he breaks ranks and stating that so lunatic and so unhinged is this purblind rush into another expansion of the occupying agenda to target Iran even with tactical nuclear weapons that Basinski told a Foreign Relations Committee be prepared they will stage an attack within the United States and

impute this to Iran and he went on to disclose the contents of a memorandum that was the secret discussions of Blair and Bush just prior to the war being launched against Iraq in which Glenn was talk about how selling the war on the basis of so-called weapons of mass destruction will not succeed they don't have any basis for that so they will have to as Christian as Basinski stated staged a spectacular event in order to be able to gain the rationale cover and pretext for

[00:50:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=3001s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=3001s)

gain the rationale cover and pretext for their planned war on Iraq the same is true now with respect to Iran Brzezinski sounding the alarm a whole sector of the ruling class says we would rather deal as the Kennedy brothers wanted to deal with Indochina with Phoenix programs with killer squads with the assassination you know programs for which Lansdale was famous as opposed to massive troop involvement the so-called capitalist piece of the Kennedy brothers that Brzezinski is now espousing entails blockading Iran you can spade Special Forces in Iran creating a push in Iran but not a full-scale war the release of the family jewels at this point is a shot across the bow of the Bush administration because the Family Jewels documents what unbridled surveillance the abrogation of all the rights of citizens in the country the removal of any pretense that there is the right to fair trial this is what the Family Jewels is about and that is what the Bush administration with its Patriot Act has been engaging in doing so I say that with respect to the release of these documents it's to put the Bush administration which is at a low point in its public support with the whole population opposed to this war in Iraq in a very difficult situation because they are disclosing that this is the standard procedure and the Bush administration is engaged in this very stuff that they are calling a crime against rights in the United States coming from the highest places of authority we should use as a historic example when the Cleveland Plain Dealer published the malai massacre information massacres of which had been part of our knowledge and part of the record for many years before the Russell Tribunal was a was documenting these the layman and clergy laymen concern had published the volume on all of the massacres that had been filed by reporters from the

[00:52:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=3121s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uF9pN78yr_4&t=3121s)

had been filed by reporters from the field in Indochina that never got past the the the news desk now why'd the timing of the Cleveland Plain Dealer disclosing the MU eye massacre by the way Jimmy Carter at the time governor of Georgia called for a lieutenant Calley day in Georgia to put things in their proper context the exposure however of nilai was a signal that a wing of the ruling class was prepared to make the continuation of that war in Indochina impossible I suggest that what we are dealing with here the release of these documents is an expression of that internecine conflict where a wing of the class is saying to the bush people this far and no further you occupy a Iran you attack it with tactical nuclear weapons the whole Middle East will go up in flames and the conditions will begin to coalesce for a class struggle in the it states for a working class fight back for a popular uprising against the permanent war agenda of this new Tsar that is running of the policies of the ruling class in the United States today that's the context but we must not fall into the trap that the buffoons like the Talbot sewers for that matter their acolytes with Peter Dale Scott and his ilk in celebrating the Kennedy brothers and romanticizing them because you're talking about a wing of the class that doesn't want anything resembling the rights of the oppressed but a capitalist piece that allows for special forces to do the work and coup d'etat to be the instrument as opposed to massive troop involvement but the deepening exploitation is the shared concomitant of all wings of this capitalist ruling class those are the stakes and Joan what you have been doing and exposing who is involved in these assassinations what are the forces that are at play here why was garrison targeted by all wings of the ruling class and primarily among some of the Kennedy brothers is an extraordinary service in exposing the

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extraordinary service in exposing the underlying dynamics of the crisis of our time thank you out because after all in this book brothers garrison is once more attacked once more vilified which proves your point well I think I would we're going to continue this discussion and we're going to come back to these issues but I

would urge all of our listeners not only to read a farewell to justice but please go to the website that Joan Mellon gives the website WWII and any Ilen net that's JOA in m e ll en net because you must acquaint yourselves with what Joan is done about the role of wall to Sheraton and the meaning of the otep cough file and the role of the Kennedys and the underlying dynamics from from 1122 to 9/11 is the same crime the same criminals and the same assault upon our rights as of people brothers and sisters this has been taking aim with Rob Schulman and Mayas shown our program today the release of the family jewels official murder then now we'll be available on our website WWE can radio.com today we've had a discussion with Joan Mellon professor and author of a farewell to justice Jim Garrison JFK's assassination and the case that should have changed history please read it if you haven't and go to WWII Annette for more articles on the subject we'll be with you next week [Music]

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